

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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SUBJ: PMAC LAUNCHES PUBLIC ANTI-EPRP CAMPAIGN

1. SUMMARY: BREAKING LONGSTANDING OFFICIAL SILENCE ON SUBJECT, PMAC CHOSE EVE OF REVOLUTION DAY TO LAUNCH SERIES OF VIOLENT PUBLIC RADIO AND PRESS CONDEMNATIONS OF ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY PARTY (EPRP). ONCE EQUIVOCAL ABOUT WHAT TO DO WITH EPRP, GIVEN LEFTIST ORIENTATION OF ORGANIZATION, EPMG APPARENTLY NOW FEELS THAT EPRP HAS GONE BEYOND STAGE OF MERE DISSATISFACTION WITH GOVERNMENT FOR NOT GOING SOCIALIST FAST ENOUGH TO ACTIVE ATTEMPT TO OUST EPMG LEADERS. ONE SOURCE HAS TOLD EMBOFF THAT PUBLIC STATEMENTS ARE BEGINNING OF NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT EPRP, WHICH HAS ABUSED GOVERNMENT'S SILENCE IN PAST TO GAIN ACCEPTABILITY IN LEFTIST QUARTERS. END SUMMARY

2. CONDEMNATIONS ACCUSE EPRP OF SABOTAGE, SUBVERSION, ANARCHISM, DISRUPTING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC GAINS MADE SINCE THE REVOLUTION, AND WORKING IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH IMPERIALIST AND REACTIONARY ELEMENTS PARTICULARLY IN THE COUNTRYSIDE. AS EXAMPLES, STATEMENTS NOTE SABOTAGE OF MACHINERY IN FACTORIES TO DIS-

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RUPT PRODUCTION, KILLING INNOCENT FARMERS, ROBBING CLINICS,

SCHOOLS, BANKS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN RURAL AREAS WHERE SECURITY FORCES ARE NOT MAINTAINED AT FULL STRENGTH. STATEMENTS BLAME SO-CALLED EPRP ANARCHIST GROUP FOR CAUSING PRESENT SCARCITY OF ESSENTIAL GOODS IN BOTH URBAN AND RURAL AREAS, ACCUSED EPRP PETIT BOURGEOIS OFFSPRING OF FORMER FEUDAL LORDS OF SOWING DISCORD BETWEEN MASSES AND MILITARY, CREATING LABOR DISTURBANCES, AND ATTEMPTING TO REINSTALL DISCREDITED FEUDAL REGIME BY ALLYING ITSELF WITH GETACHEW NADW AND SISAY HABTE.

3. PMAC STATEMENTS NOTE THAT EPRP TALKS ABOUT SOCIALISM AND SOCIALIST IDEOLOGY, BUT AT SAME TIME HAS CONCLUDED ALLIANCE WITH ARCH ENEMIES OF ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION, THE ELF AND SO-CALLED EDU, WITH GOAL OF DISMEMBERING COUNTRY AND DIVIDING PEOPLE ON TRIBAL LINES. PARTY FURTHER ACCUSED OF SEVERAL BOMBING, UNDERMINING ACTIVITIES OF URBAN DWELLERS ASSOCIATIONS, DISCOURAGING PARTICIPATION IN REVOLUTION DAY CEREMONIES, OPPOSING LAND REFORM, AND ZEMATCHA CAMPAIGN, AND ATTEMPTING TO DENY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO BROAD MASSES.

4. COMMENT: STATEMENTS GIVE EPRP CREDIT OR AN ASSIST FOR MOST OF THE SINS EXISTING IN PRESENT DAY ETHIOPIA AND FOR HAVING A HAND IN VIRTUALLY ALL THE MAJOR INSTANCES OF VIOLENCE OVER PAST YEAR OR SO. WHILE WELL-ORGANIZED AND WELL PLACED WITHIN LABOR MOVEMENT AND EVEN IN SOME GOVERNMENT CIRCLES, WE SEE EPRP AS ONLY ONE OF MANY THORNS IN SIDE OF GOVERNMENT AT PRESENT, RATHER THAN AS OMNIPRESENT ANTI-GOVERNMENT FORCE IT MADE OUT TO BE BY PMAC. ONE CAN ONLY SPECULATE WHY GOVERNMENT CHOSE THIS PARTICULAR MOMENT TO DENOUNCE EPRP PUBLICLY, ALTHOUGH POSSIBLE CAUSE MAY BE CURRENT STORY GOING AROUND THAT EPRP AND ELF MAY HAVE MET AND AGREED TO CONDUCT MUTUAL URBAN GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN AGAINST PMAC. TIENKEN

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